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Summary record of the 3rd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 27 September 2000, at 9 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Holkeri ..... (Finland)

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00-66050 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items *(continued)*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Equatorial Guinea (A/55/233)

1. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States". The representative of Equatorial Guinea had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Ntugu Abeso (Equatorial Guinea) took a place at the Committee table.*

3. **Mr. Ntugu Abeso** (Equatorial Guinea) said that, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), established in 1983, was increasingly confronted by obstacles to achieving subregional integration, including numerous conflicts which had affected political stability and security in the subregion. ECCAS worked closely with the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, established by General Assembly resolution 46/37 B of 28 May 1992 as a forum for dialogue and policy coordination.

4. The latest socio-political realities in the subregion had prompted the restructuring of ECCAS. In June 1999, the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX) had been established to ensure policy and military coordination in peacekeeping, peace-building and security operations. Other aspects of the restructuring included the establishment of a multinational Central African force; an early warning mechanism; a subregional parliament; and the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. For all those reasons, the States members of ECCAS wished to formalize and expand their cooperation with the United Nations system. The inclusion of the additional item in the agenda of the current session would facilitate the kind of direct contact with the United Nations and its specialized agencies enjoyed by other regional and subregional economic communities.

5. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be included in the agenda, and that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

6. *Mr. Ntugu Abeso (Equatorial Guinea) withdrew.*

Request by Italy on allocation of agenda item 105 (A/55/417)

7. **The Chairman** drew attention to a letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Italy (A/55/417) concerning agenda item 105 on crime prevention and criminal justice. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly had decided to allocate the item to the Third Committee.

8. In his letter of 25 September 2000, the Permanent Representative of Italy drew attention to General Assembly resolution 53/111 by which the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea. By its resolution 54/126, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should submit the final text of the Convention and the protocols thereto to the Assembly for early adoption prior to a high-level signing conference. In that connection, the Permanent Representative of Italy had requested that agenda item 105 of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", should also be considered directly in the plenary Assembly for the sole purpose of taking action on the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto. The representative of Italy had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

9. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Borzi (Italy) took a place at the Committee table.*

10. **Ms. Borzi** (Italy) drew attention to the letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Italy (A/55/417) and said that the

political signing conference for the purpose of signing the Convention and its protocols was scheduled to take place in Palermo from 12 to 15 December 2000. The Ad Hoc Committee would meet for four weeks in October to finalize the text of the three protocols supplementing the Convention. Her delegation requested the inclusion of agenda item 105 with a view to the adoption of the draft Convention and protocols by the General Assembly during the current session, and to allowing sufficient time for their transmission to the political signing conference in Palermo.

11. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that agenda item 105 should also be considered directly in plenary meeting for the sole purpose of taking action on the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto.

12. *Ms. Borzi (Italy) withdrew.*

The meeting rose at 9.15 a.m.